

## BOOK REVIEWS

VIOLA, H.J. C. MARGOLIS. 1991. **Seeds of Change—Five Hundred Years since Columbus.** (ISBN 1-56098-036-2 pbk). Smithsonian Institution Press, Department 900, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17294-0900. Paper \$24.95. 277 pp.

*Seeds of Change* supports the Smithsonian Institution's Columbus Quincentenary exhibit, "Seeds of Change," that examines the monumental effect that corn, the horse, disease, potato and sugar have had on the Old and New Worlds. This volume is an attempt to examine consequences of Columbus stepping ashore and changing world history. There are 15 essays; *Seeds of Change* tells about the exhibit and how the book supports it; *The Demise of the Fifth Sun* is a history of the indigenous people that populated the New World; essay 3 and 4 is a history of the spread of new crops the Americas introduced to the Old World like maize, potatoes, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, peanuts, manioc, cacao, peppers, beans, squashes and new grape varieties. Essay 5 is *The Metamorphosis of the New World*. Essay 6 is about the influence of the horse on the New World. Essays 7 and 8 are about the profits provided by the plants of the New World and about the effects of slavery. Essay 9 is the history of old Galway's Plantation on Montserrat Island and presents as one of many to show the array of people, plants, animals and ideas of the New World. Essay 10 explains how African culture has influenced and enriched the culture of the Americas. Essay 11 is *An American Indian Perspective*. Essay 12 is *Health and Disease in the Pre-Columbian World*. Essay 13 is *Three Faces of Eden*. Face one being nature primeval, face two is nature modified, disturbed and despoiled by man's domination and destruction, and face three is the artificial or synthetic nature made by man. The last essay, *Nature's Future* addresses the problems and hopes for the future. There are 165 color and 162 black and white photographs. Historians, conservationists, anthropologists, and botanists will find this book worth reading.—*Dotty Woodson*.

SEGERBÄCK, L.B. 1992., **Orchids of Malaya.** (ISBN 90 6191 700X) A.A. Balkemia, Old Post Road, Brookfield, VT. 05036. Hbk. \$120.00 168 pp.

Segerbäck's listing and description of 130 Malayan species will be a valuable source for orchid growers, researchers and botanists. There are 229 black and white and 26 color photographs. The glossary defines taxonomic terms special to orchids. The text includes a key to the genera, a description featuring each subfamily and genus. Each entry includes a thorough botanical description of the genus and each species found in Malaya. Distribution for other parts of the world are given. This book is a reference that will be appreciated by orchidists for years.—*Dotty Woodson*